WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cordless telephone system, comprising:

a base station adapted to function as a slave;

a first handset unit adapted to function as a master;

a second handset unit adapted to function as a master;

said first and second handsets adapted to periodically poll said base station and receive commands responsive to which said first or second handset turns off said polling functionality when an active connection exists between said base station and said other of said first or second handsets.

2. A system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said first or second handset units receive commands responsive to which said first or second handset units reactivate said poling functionality when said active connection is disconnected.

3. A system in accordance with claim 2, wherein said first or second handsets receive commands responsive to said polling indicative of a new timing relationship for a next polling.

4. A cordless telephone system, comprising:

a base station adapted to function as a slave;

a first mobile unit adapted to function as a master;

a second mobile unit adapted to function as a master;

said first and second mobile units adapted to alternately function as a system slave when the other of said first or second mobile units has an active connection with said base station.

5. A cordless telephone system in accordance with claim 4, said first and second mobile units adapted to send polling signals to said base station when functioning as masters.

6. A cordless telephone system in accordance with claim 5, said base station adapted to respond to said polling signals by sending signals directing said first or second mobile units to adjust their poll timing.

7. A cordless telephone system in accordance with claim 6, wherein said alternately functioning as slaves comprises turning off polling functionality while said active connection is ongoing.

8. A cordless telephone system in accordance with claim 7, wherein said base station is adapted to respond to said polling signals by sending signals directing one of said first or second mobile units to turn off said polling functionality..

9. A cordless telephone system in accordance with claim 8, wherein a mobile station that has turned off said polling functionality is adapted to turn said polling functionality back on responsive to commands from said other of said first or second mobile units.

10. A method in a telecommunications system having a base station and at least first and second mobile units, comprising:

sending polling signals to said base station from said first and second mobile units; and

receiving at said first or second mobile units one or more signals directing said first or second mobile units to adjust a timing of said sending polling signals.

11. A method in accordance with claim 10, further comprising receiving at one of said first or second mobile units a signal from said base station responsive to polling directing said mobile unit to turn off polling functionality during an active connection between said base station and the other of said first or second mobile units.

12. A method in accordance with claim 11, further comprising said one turning said polling functionality back on responsive to a signal from said other of

said first or second mobile units.

13. A method, comprising:

providing a base station adapted to function as a slave;

providing a first mobile unit adapted to function as a master;

providing a second mobile unit adapted to function as a master;

said first and second mobile units adapted to alternately function as a system slave when the other of said first or second mobile units has an active connection with said base station.

14. A method in accordance with claim 13, said first and second mobile units adapted to send polling signals to said base station when functioning as masters.

15. A method in accordance with claim 14, said base station adapted to respond to said polling signals by sending signals directing said first or second mobile units to adjust their poll timing.

16. A method in accordance with claim 15, wherein said alternately functioning as slaves comprises turning off polling functionality while said active connection is ongoing.

17. A method in accordance with claim 16, wherein said base station is adapted to respond to said polling signals by sending signals directing one of said first or second mobile units to turn off said polling functionality.

18. A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein a mobile station that has turned off said polling functionality is adapted to turn said polling functionality back on responsive to commands from said other of said first or second mobile units.